

SIDE ELEVATION.



description of it; he says, "the splendid mausoleums, pure rich wrought marbles, bold sculptures, and brilliant paintings, interspersed through eighteen chapels, and twenty-two altars, present one magnificent *coop d'œil*, the effect of which nothing can surpass. Even the choir, differing from other churches, is beautifully decorated with every attraction of art that can lend a charm to religious sanctity. The splendid confessionals, the beauty of the statues and paintings on all sides, the exquisite skill and beauty of the carvings, the subdued and mellow light thrown over the whole from the majestic windows, give it a hold on the imagination and the feelings not to be experienced in any other place." In a chapel behind the choir of this church, is the tomb of Rubens and his family.

But it is impossible to mention all that is worth seeing in the churches of Antwerp. We can only advise those who have the leisure, to spend a week there; they will find more than sufficient to occupy them pleasantly and profitably, especially if they take a sketch-book with them, as recommended in a former number.

PATENT ORNAMENTAL TILES.

SIR,—The very liberal and courteous tone of manner you evince, on every subject which has for its design the advancement of art or science, especially in its relation to architecture, emboldens me to intrude upon your attention the result of some considerable labour on the subject of tiling. In the pursuit of this I have been guided by the following ideas, viz.: security, economy, taste.

Hitherto the style of covering buildings seems to have been the victim of necessity rather than the well-regulated result of choice or design.

About three years since I was the inventor and patentee of a tile, which claimed many advantages over those in common use, being provided with a coupling joint of inverted fillets, somewhat similar to the "Italian tile;" but in practice I discovered many serious defects—their large flat surface being very difficult accurately to manufacture, besides insecure when on the roof, in consequence of the fractures to which the inverted fillets were so continually liable, besides thus forming an inducement rather than a prevention to the admission of water.

The tile to which I now solicit your attention is the result of practical experience and observation, by which these evils are entirely obviated, the manufacture facilitated, and more perfect security obtained when on the roof, besides being much lighter, more elegant and original in their character, and capable of a greater variety of style, though of one uniform size and gauge—a feature not possessed by my former patent tile, though of paramount importance.

In addition to the entire curvature of surface, which provides an equal distribution of water over each tile, the concave and convex overlapping, while it not only prevents leakage, through driving rains or capillary attraction (an evil, though frequently unobserved, yet of very common occurrence in covering by the

particular remark, except that the two centre figures project a little before those on each side. As was mentioned in another case, the centre division is occupied by the priest.

Every one is aware that this cathedral contains two of Rubens' finest paintings, "the Elevation of the Cross," and "the Descent from the Cross;" the latter of these was taken by Napoleon to Paris, but restored at the peace of 1815. Besides these splendid productions, there are many others of great beauty, forming one of the most extensive collections possessed by any church in Belgium.

Another interesting object in the church, is the tomb of Quentin Matsys, known as the Blacksmith of Antwerp. Sir Joshua Reynolds, in his discourses on the fine arts, mentions him as a great painter; and those who have seen the tomb of Edward the Fourth, at Windsor, (if by him) will willingly bear testimony to his skill as a smith; it is almost as delicate as lace.

The church of St. Paul will well repay the stranger for a lengthened visit; it contains two fine rows of confessionals, each one surmounted by a good picture. In the inclosure around this church is what is called a representation of Calvary; it is reared against the walls of the church. There are more than sixty figures, of the size of life, representing patriarchs, prophets, and apostles; some of the groups have a bold and graceful outline. The entire area is converted into a sort of pantheon of saints,

statues of half the calendar being stuck about in all directions.

The church of St. James is considered by many persons the finest in Antwerp. Roscoe in his "Tour through Belgium," gives a fine

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